

TVA Kingston Fossil Plant Sampling and Site Activities February 6, 2008 Update

This is an update on sampling and site activities related to the TVA Kingston ash slide from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Department of Health.

In response to the Commissioner's Order, issued on Jan. 12, TVA has submitted information that was required within 20 days of receipt of the Order. The Order required, within 20 days, all existing studies, reports and memoranda that are potentially relevant to explaining or analyzing the cause of the catastrophic failure of the containment structures surrounding portions of its Kingston Class II landfill. TVA has posted these reports on the Internet and you can find a link on the TDEC Web site at <http://www.tn.gov/environment/kingston/index.shtml> - then click on "Enforcement and TVA Submittals."

Also in response to the Commissioner's Order, on February 5, TVA presented Environment and Conservation with a proposed dredge plan for clearing ash out of the Emory River. You can find this proposed plan on Environment and Conservation's Kingston Web site under "Enforcement and TVA Submittals" as well. The plan is currently under review by Environment and Conservation and EPA and has not been approved at this time.

There are several other updates to the Department of Environment and Conservation's Kingston Web site. The "Results Reporting" page now contains additional information about air monitoring and we have updated the Web site with radiological results on the soil and ash. Results on other tests performed on the soil and ash, including metals analysis, will be posted shortly. These samples were collected by Environment and Conservation and analyzed at the state lab operated by the Tennessee Department of Health.

On February 5, members of Environment and Conservation, the Tennessee Department of Health, EPA and some outside consultants met with Dr. Avner Vengosh of Duke University to get more information about his recent sampling and to share information about the state's sampling results and monitoring plans. Dr. Vengosh agreed with the state of Tennessee's assessment that based on all sample results to date, the municipal drinking water supply is safe. All agree it's important for sampling to continue.

The Duke University results are consistent with results collected and analyzed by the state of Tennessee, as well as EPA and TVA, in other areas as well:

Soil and Ash - Radiological and metals levels between agencies and the university do not fluctuate significantly, and none of the results indicate an acute health risk by a person being in the same vicinity as the fly ash. Inhalation or ingestion of the fly ash over an extended period of time could potentially have

adverse health effects. The Department of Health has shared health information about what to do if a person comes into contact with the ash and is available for community members with questions by calling 1-800-404-3006. Environment and Conservation has also required a number of safeguards to be put into place to prevent, as much as possible, the ash from becoming airborne. Those are outlined on the "Air Monitoring Results" section of the Web site under "Results Reporting." The state of Tennessee remains committed to ensuring the ash is cleaned up and handled appropriately so it does not pose a risk to the community and monitoring will continue.

Surface Water - The highest levels of contaminants in the water have been found in the immediate area of the ash spill, particularly in the embayments that are now filled with ash. All parties agree that monitoring must continue and cleanup must proceed in a way that protects both human health and the ecosystem.

Environment and Conservation will be organizing a community meeting shortly to give people another opportunity to get information on and ask questions about updated sampling results to date. We will keep you posted once we've got a date and location. We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if you have any questions.